

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05

OES-07 OMB-01 AGRE-00 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 /077 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4696

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 6945

GENEVA FOR MR. CAVANAUGH

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, EAID, EFIN, AF, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN COOPERATION WITH ANTI-OPIUM EFFORTS IN
AFGHANISTAN

REF: OTTAWA 8740

1. JUDGING FROM THE REFTEL, IT IS APPARENT THAT THE CANADIANS ARE CONFUSED ABOUT WHICH PARTICULAR PROJECT WE ARE RECOMMENDING BE COVERED BY AN ANTI-POPPY CLAUSE. THE DEPARTMENT'S ORIGINAL PROPOSAL, AS WE UNDERSTOOD IT, APPLIED TO THE CANADIAN COMPONENT OF THE IBRD AGRICULTURAL PROJECT LOAN, WHICH IS TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE AFGHAN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BANK NO LOAN TO FARMERS IN SEVERAL REGIONS OF AFGHANISTAN. IF THERE HAS INDEED BEEN SOME CONFUSION ON THIS POINT IN OTTAWA, IT MIGHT STILL BE WORTH CLARIFYING THIS MATTER WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA (GOC), AND REQUESTING THAT THEY APPROVE A CLAUSE SIMILAR TO THE ONE WE USED FOR THE AID COMPONENT OF THE SAME PROJECT.

2. AS FOR THE KABUL RIVER BASIN PROJECT BEING CONSIDERED BY CIDA (REFTEL), THE EMBASSY IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE CANADIANS
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SHOULD BE ASKED TO CONSIDER AN ANTI-OPIUM CLAUSE IF, AS WE ASSUME, AGRICULTURAL LANDS ARE TO BE CREATED OR IMPROVED. (THIS, WE BELIEVE, SHOULD BE THE CRITERIA -- NOT WHETHER THE PROJECT IS "DIRECTLY FARMER-RELATED.") OPIUM POPPIES CAN BE GROWN IN THAT AREA (HEAVY POPPY PRODUCTION HAS BEEN FOUND IN RECENT YEARS ON SOVIET-IRRIGATED LANDS IN THE NEIGHBORING NANGARHAR REGION). IT WOULD THEREFORE BE PRUDENT, FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF THE INTER-

NATIONAL COMMUNITY WHICH HAS A STAKE IN LIMITING AFGHANISTAN'S OPIUM PRODUCTION, FOR THE GOC TO GET A FIRM COMMITMENT FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN (GOA) AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF ANY PROJECT AGREEMENT. IN A PROJECT AREA WITH DISTINCT BOUNDARIES -- SUCH AS THE KABUL RIVER BASIN -- MONITORING IS POSSIBLE.

3. THUS FAR THIS YEAR, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS SECURED GOA AGREEMENT TO ANTI-OPIUM CLAUSES FOR FOUR SEPARATE PROJECT AGREEMENTS; THEREFORE, WE DO NOT AGREE THAT SUCH A PROHIBITION WOULD BE "HOPELESSLY DIFFICULT" (PARA 1, REFTL) FOR THE GOC TO ACHIEVE.

4. IN THE EVENT THAT THE CANADIANS HAVE NOT ALREADY TAKEN FINAL ACTION ON THEIR COMPONENT OF THE IBRD AGRICULTURAL LOAN, THIS EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT THE ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS BE DISCUSSED URGENTLY WITH THE GOC, EITHER IN WASHINGTON OR OTTAWA.
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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